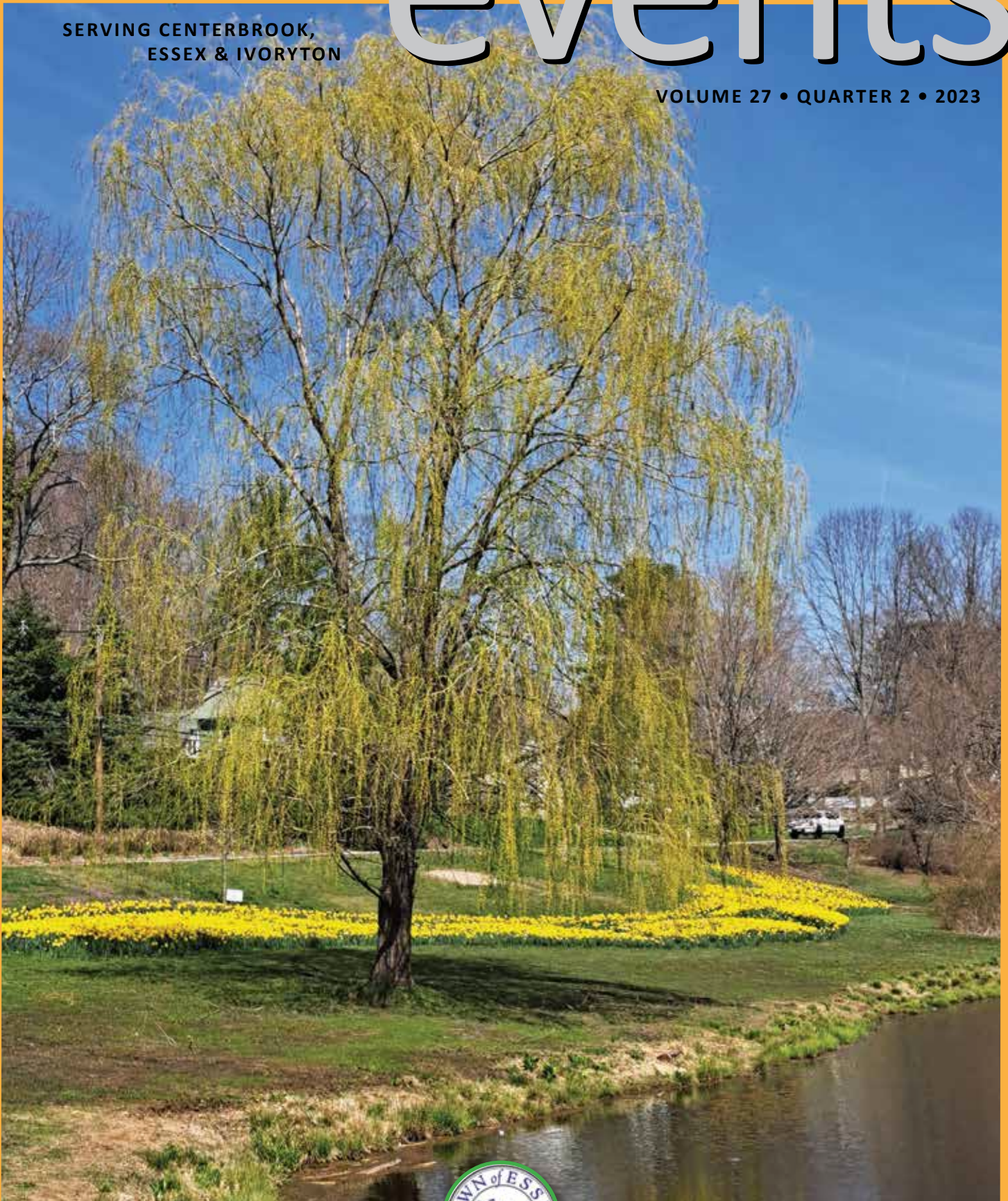


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First Selectman's Corner

Dear Friends and Neighbors,



Norm Needleman
First Selectman

Finally, spring has arrived!

I encourage you to spend time outdoors enjoying the serenity of our beautiful Town and check out all the upcoming events that the warm weather brings. The Garden Club's May Market will be held in Main Street Park in Essex on Saturday, May 13th at 8:00 am – 1:00 pm. Explore the many Essex Land Trust trails and visit our

Town parks. The Burning of the Ships, Memorial Day, and the July 4th parades have been scheduled and the Ivoryton Farmers Market will take place on the Ivoryton Village Green on Saturdays from June through October. Considering summer activities for the kids? Our Park & Recreation Department has a fantastic summer camp for children in grades K-8. Visit the Connecticut River Museum, make plans to take a ride on the Essex Steam Train, or see a show at the Ivoryton Playhouse. While you are out and about, shop the local boutiques and visit our fine restaurants. Our small town has much to offer.

The 2023-2024 Annual Budget is in progress.

As always, the Town's goal is to continue to meet the needs and expectations of our residents while keeping expenditures as low as possible. The final budget went to a Public Hearing on April 20, 2023, at 7:30 pm and will then be voted on by residents at the Annual Town Budget Meeting on Monday May 8, 2023, at 7:30 pm. The Region 4 Budget Referendum for Essex residents will be on May 2nd from 6:00 am – 8:00 pm at the Essex Town Hall. For more detailed information about the budget please check the Town and Region 4 websites.

The Town is preparing for two upcoming projects.

The Town was awarded a \$500,000 dollar grant through the Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) for the Essex Civic Campus Enhancement project phase II which consists of **improvements to Hubbard Park**. The project will include new fencing, additional parking, pedestrian pathways, new concessions, ADA compliant restrooms, and equipment storage along with landscaping improvements.

We are also hoping to start the **River Road Sidewalk project**. The Town was awarded a connectivity grant to extend the sidewalk from 5 River Rd. to 85 River Rd. The project will include a pedestrian bridge to cross the Falls

continued on page 5



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First Selectman... continued from page 3

River. We anticipate both projects getting underway this summer.

To stay up to date with what's happening in our community, I encourage residents to sign up for the Essex News quarterly email newsletter and the emergency notification system, Safer Essex. You can subscribe to both services by

going to our Town website at: <https://www.essexct.gov/home/pages/online-services>. These Town resources are invaluable to staying informed.

All the Best,
Norm Needleman,
First Selectman

Town Clerk's Office

Just a Reminder... Dog License Renewals Due in June



2023-2024 Dog License Renewals

will be due from June 1st to June 30th, 2023. (No early renewals

prior to June 1st.) We would appreciate it if you mailed in your request due to the volume.

Up-to-date Rabies vaccine information will also be required

as well as any current spayed or neutered procedures.

For those residents with current registered dogs, we will be sending out a renewal letter in late May. Please refer to the expiration date of each dog's vaccine certificate on your renewal form, making sure that it is not expired on July 1, 2023, the first day of licensing for the new year.

The cost to register a dog is \$8.00 for a neutered / spayed dog and \$19.00 for a dog which has not yet been neutered / spayed.

Please note...

Keeping dogs licensed is required by State Statute 22-338 and not just a way to identify lost dogs. It is also a matter of safety, for pets and their owners. Thank you for your consideration.



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From the Assessors' Office

2023 Town of Essex Reassessment Update



Per Connecticut General Statutes the Town of Essex is required to reassess all properties at current market value as of October 1, 2023. Therefore, the sales in the year prior to October 1, 2023 (10-01-2022 through 09-30-2023) will be reviewed and used to establish new property values.

Connecticut State Statutes require that all real estate within the jurisdiction of a municipality be reassessed every five years. The main purpose being to rebalance any inequities that may have developed since the last reassessment (2018). A town that does not implement a required reassessment is at risk of losing certain grant money and is subject to various penalties.

Reassessment is a revenue neutral process. A significant increase / decrease in a property's assessed value will not result in an equivalent increase / decrease in the property's taxes. The total amount the town needs to collect through taxes for the support of our schools and local government is determined by the town budget regardless of whether a reassessment takes place or not.

The data collection phase of our state mandated reassessment is under way. All residential property owners should have received their "2023 Revaluation – Residential Data Verification Report." These letters were mailed the first week of January with a request to return within 10 days of receipt. If you have not already done so, please read, indicate any changes, sign, and return your form as soon as possible.

If you have already returned your mailer, we appreciate your cooperation. Please note that any changes you may have made to your information will not be reflected on the website until the revaluation is completed later this year.

Further information regarding the revaluation process in general can be found at Vision Government Solutions website: <https://www.vgsi.com/taxpayer-revaluation-information/>.

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Sold in 3 days



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Sold for: \$430,000
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13 Dogwood Drive, Essex
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3 Old Forge Road, Westbrook
Sold for: \$284,500
Represented Buyer

*Source: William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty 2022 Awards Recognition, Essex Brokerage. Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated. 🏠

From the Assessors' Office

Real Estate Tax Relief - Persons Totally Disabled or Over Age 65

State of Connecticut Circuit Breaker Program

The Assessor's Office is accepting applications for the State of Connecticut Circuit Breaker program until May 15th. To qualify for this program a person must be totally disabled or age 65 by December 31, 2022. In the case of a married couple, only one spouse needs to be 65. The total household qualifying income, including any Social Security benefits, must be less than \$49,100 for a married couple; and less than \$40,300 for a single person.

The property that you are seeking assistance for must be your primary residence.

Once qualified for the State Circuit Breaker Program, you are also eligible for the Town of Essex matching benefit.

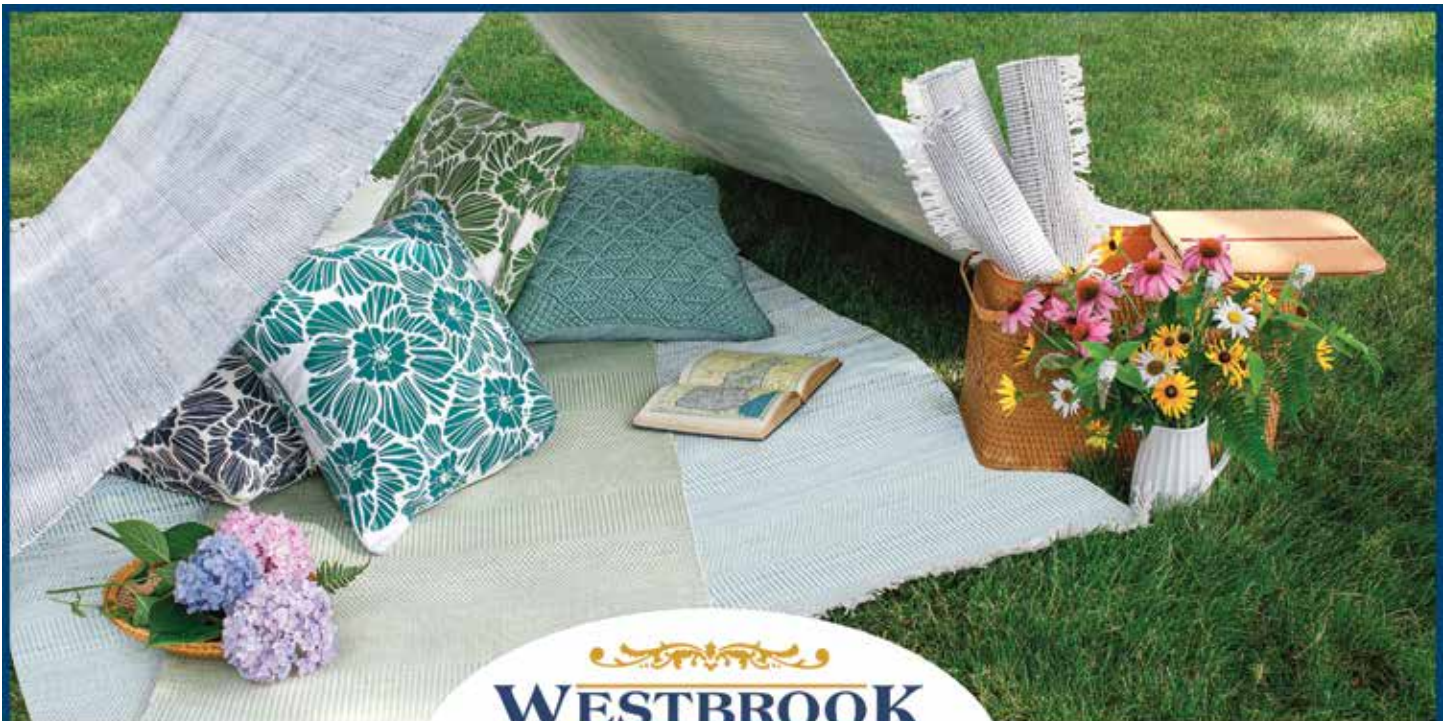
The amount of tax relief is a sliding scale based on total qualifying income. For example, if a married couple had a total qualifying income of \$22,000 for calendar year 2022, they may be eligible for assistance from the State of up to \$1,000. The \$1,000 would be taken off the tax bill and the Town would match that benefit up to 100%, depending on age and years in the current primary residence. The tax bill could be reduced by as much as \$2,000.

If you, or someone you know, might be eligible for this benefit, please have

them mail their information or come to the Assessor's Office at Town Hall with their 2022 SSA 1099, and proof of any income earned in calendar year 2022 or a copy of their 2022 tax return prior to May 15, 2023.

We look forward to the opportunity to assist you. Please call or email with any questions.

Jessica Sypher, CCMA II,
Assessor
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Region 4 Budget Referendum

The Region 4 Budget Referendum is on Tuesday, May 2, 2023. The Referendum will be held at the Essex Town Hall from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm. If you are not registered to vote you can register online at: <https://voterregistration.ct.gov/OLVR/welcome.do>.

If you have any questions, please call 860-767-4340 ext. 142 or by email.

Registrars of Voters

Caitlin Riley

c Riley@essexct.gov

Barbara Ryan

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Experience Essex in 2023!

The Essex Board of Trade (EBOT) was delighted to sponsor its third annual Daffodil Days, celebrating the seasonal bloom of 43,000+ daffodils planted by the Essex Foundation's beautification committee. "Daffodils symbolize rebirth and new beginnings. Each spring, the bright blooms along with themed business displays, have positioned Essex as a destination of choice for visitors and locals alike," said Julia Hutchinson, president of the EBOT.

EBOT created Daffodil Days to encourage visitors not only to come and enjoy the beauty of the daffodils, but to also experience our local restaurants, shops, galleries, waterfront, and historic architecture in the villages of Essex, Centerbrook and Ivoryton.

As the days get longer and spring daffodils begin to fade,



Daffodil Days at The First Congregational Church.



EBOT now looks forward to hosting Alfresco Summer. In July and August, many stores on Main Street

in Essex will be open later as restaurants serve up festive food and drink specials on their patios, decks and dockside. "Now five years strong, Alfresco Summer is an event that residents and visitors increasingly look forward to each year," Ms. Hutchinson continues. "The event continues to brand the

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Alfresco Summer at Olive Oyl's.

villages of Centerbrook, Essex and Ivoryton as an alfresco experience to be enjoyed year-round. As a result, people have come to know about the numerous outdoor dining venues in the villages and a shopping experience that includes strolling, lunch, coffee, and time to relax on a bench in our parks or along the Connecticut River.”

The EBOT would like to thank the community for their generous support through our annual

appeal, as well as attending our community events and patronizing our village business establishments throughout the year.

Stay up-to-date with all Essex has to offer by visiting the EBOT’S website at: EssexCT.com. And don’t forget to follow @experienceessex on Instagram, for event updates.

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Elementary School Foundation Supports New Math Specialist Position at Elementary School

The Essex Elementary School Foundation (EESF) has funded a math specialist position as part of its goal to expand interest and skills-based learning in STEM.

Shannon VanderMale, current Essex Elementary School math coach, will take on the additional role of math specialist (a one-year granted position by EESF) to encourage students to problem-solve using the skills they have learned in their math lessons. Shannon will produce different math problem-solving tasks that allow students to use their existing mathematics skills in new and creative ways. Some of the STEM related tasks designed will be “non-curricular,” meaning they will



Math Specialist Shannon VanderMale works one on one with students to learn mathematical concepts related to STEM.

not be linked to specific math lessons, but instead challenge learners to approach problems at different entry points using a range of strategies they have been taught in school.

The purpose of these math tasks is to stimulate creative problem-solving, rather than having students simply mimic what they have learned in class. She will also be incorporating STEM lessons that blend mathematical concepts into each grade-level science curriculum. This will allow students to engage in science tasks that include key math concepts at each grade level.

Over the next few months, students and parents can expect to see the first set of problem-solving tasks in

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each grade level. Shannon will also begin to establish this Summer's Math Passport Planning as well as a first set of STEM-integrated lessons which she aims to introduce in early spring.

The Essex Foundation \$3000 Environmental Scholarship

The Essex Foundation is now accepting applications for the **2023 Elizabeth Barnes Callender and Mary Francis Barnes Scholarship**. The \$3000 annual award was established in 1919 upon a bequest in memory of the two sisters who were Essex residents deeply committed to land conservation and preservation.

The scholarship is available to one Valley Regional High School graduating senior or graduate, or an Essex resident, who is pursuing studies related to land conservation and preservation at a two or four-year college, a technical school, or graduate school, or taking accredited courses. Fields of study may include biology, botany, agronomy, ecology, horticulture, floriculture, forestry, landscape design, or environmental science. To be considered for this year's award, applicants must submit materials to The Essex Foundation no later than May 10. Scholarship information and application forms can be found online at: theessexfoundation.org.

"We are honored to carry on Diz and Mary's legacy in support of environmental studies now and in the future," commented Bruce Glowac, President of The Essex Foundation. "We are always impressed with each applicant's accomplishments and aspirations and look forward to helping them further their education."

The Essex Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to making a difference in the lives of Essex residents by providing funding for needs not met by other organizations or sources.

The Foundation relies on donations from individuals, businesses, and other community groups to fund special community projects and needs that benefit the local community.

More information about funded projects and programs can be found on the organization's website or by emailing: contact@theessexfoundation.org.



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Musical Opportunities & Events at



Community Music School, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization based at Spencer's Corner in Centerbrook, continues to be proud of the ongoing musical development and accomplishments demonstrated by its students of all ages.

20 middle and high school CMS students earned positions (by audition) for this year's Connecticut Music Educators Association (CMEA) regional and all-state festival ensembles! Congratulations to oboists Abby Jones and Grace Trusilo, flutist Caleb McLean, trumpeters Ethan Dean and Bruce Peese, saxophonist Julian Mardjekaj, trombonists Jason Berry and AnnaMarie Mueller (All State), violinists Safina Hussain and Elizabeth Steindl, and vocalists Zi Abbott, Emily Bonner, Ella Brady (All State), Alexa Calegari, Tricia Greaves, Sadie Heiser, Vienna Maragliano, Charlie Parker, Cayden Ratineri (All State), and Delilah Tooker.

CMS continues its excellent Music Together® early childhood music classes, with the Spring Session that began April 19. These weekly classes, which occur on Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday mornings, are "Mixed Age" classes (age 0-5 with caregiver), and feature babies, toddlers, preschoolers, and the grownups who love them coming together weekly to play musically.



Students perform in a Community Music School Summer "Broadway Bound" production..

The school's full roster of ensembles continues to rehearse and present public performances, including the upcoming concert by the CMS String Orchestra, Wednesday, May 17 at 7:00 pm at John Winthrop Middle School Auditorium.

CMS also looks forward to its summer programs, with private lessons available on most instruments/voice, and popular Music Theatre Programs: Broadway Bound (July 17-28 at Valley High School for ages 10-17) will present "Matilda" and Broadway Beginners (July 10-21 at Westbrook HS for ages 5-9) will present "The Lion King Kids."

More information about the Community Music School and how to participate in its programs can be found by visiting the school at 90 Main Street, Centerbrook, on the internet at: www.cmsct.org, or by phone at: 860-767-0026.



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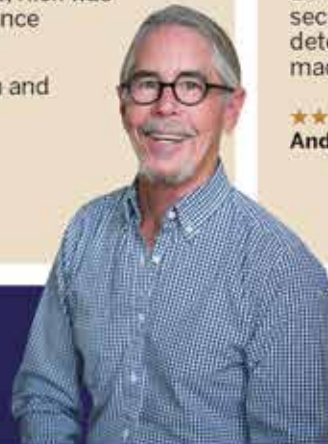
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Danielle Schmelkin



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Andrew and Lourie Turshen

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Connecticut River Museum News

This winter season has been busy here at the Museum. In December, we welcomed Elizabeth Kaeser as our new Executive Director. A Connecticut native, she recently returned from Philadelphia and New York City where she worked at institutions including the Lower East Side Tenement Museum, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site. Come say hello!

The cruising season on RiverQuest, the Museum's 64' eco-tour boat, began in February with a series of Winter Wildlife & Eagle voyages. Cruising on the RiverQuest resumes in April with Osprey & Eagle cruises. Onrust, our recreation of the vessel Adriaen Block built in 1614, returns to the docks in May. Reservations for both vessels can be made now, so book your spot before they sell out!

THE MUSEUM INVITES YOU TO THREE SPECIAL EXHIBITS:

Watercraft at Work - March 23 – May 14, 2023

Learn about the importance of the Connecticut River as a hub for commerce and transportation, through 25 works of art from our collection.



Untitled, watercolor by W.S. Clime on display during Watercraft at Work at the Connecticut River Museum, March 23 – May 14, 2023.

Water / Ways - June 3 – August 13, 2023

A Smithsonian exhibit, Water/Ways dives into water's role in our lives, environmentally, culturally, and historically.

Waterways of the Connecticut River Valley

August 29 – October 8, 2023

Plein air paintings of the Connecticut River Valley by artist Jerry Weiss, who for 30 years has chronicled the river, exploring the balance between our human presence and nature's enduring beauty.



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Summer Camp returns to the Connecticut River Museum

PLUS! The Kids Summer Camp Returns from July 10 – August 18, 2023

Camp runs Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm and has a different theme each week. Ideal for kids between 6 and 12, they'll catch critters with dip and seine nets, hoist sails, and become history detectives.

Finally, save the date for RiverFare!

Join us under the big tent on June 1, 2023 for tasty treats from local purveyors. Peruse the silent auction and support your Museum.

Welcome to Essex



Essex consists of three unique villages and is ideally located on the Connecticut River a few short miles from Long Island Sound.

Well-known for its beautiful landscapes, majestic trees and gardens, fascinating architecture, and cultural and historical attractions, we are a boating and sailing destination as well.

Essex is famous for hosting a multitude of parades throughout the year and offers an outstanding culinary and shopping experience to our residents and visitors. Come experience, explore and enjoy the small-town enchantment of Essex, Connecticut.



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156 MAIN STREET
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2 INSPIRATION LANE
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#10, Essex | Under Contract
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5 WEST MAIN STREET
Chester
Listed at: \$1,500/month



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Old Lyme | Under Contract
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#1 TOTAL TRANSACTIONS IN ESSEX 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 & 2023 (YTD)*

*Source: SmartMLS, 1/1/19-3/27/23, total transactions by agent, Essex; all properties listed or sold by agent

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Join the Team Sharing Local History at Pratt House

Essex Historical Society (EHS) seeks engaged volunteers to serve as a new class of Tour Guides at Pratt House, Essex's only historic house museum, located at 19 West Avenue, Essex. Come join our team of lifelong learners, eager to share the town's rich history.

Pratt House Guides provide engaging tours of Pratt House to the visiting public on weekend afternoons from June through September and occasional group tours and education programs.



EHS Pratt House Education Programs

Volunteering as a Pratt House guide provides opportunities for lifelong learning.

No experience is necessary and all training materials will be provided. You will enjoy getting to know your fellow guides and meeting new people. New guides will benefit from EHS's training sessions and peer-mentoring from our experienced guides.

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EHS Pratt House Group Tour

Built between 1701 and 1850, Pratt House serves as Essex's only historic house museum, welcoming hundreds of visitors each year.

A tour of Pratt House shares the stories of early American life in a Connecticut River seaport town. Built in stages between 1701-1850, the well-preserved, uniquely-asymmetrical home served the same family for more than 200 years, many of them sharing in the family blacksmith business. Pratt House's historic

CT Sea Music Festival

The 2nd Annual CT Sea Music Festival will drop anchor in downtown Essex on June 9-12, 2023.

This family-friendly weekend includes a Symposium on the Music of the Sea, free daytime workshops with local, regional, and international maritime musicians, a family stage, demonstrations of sailor skills, sails on the CT River Museum's Onrust, a Sunday morning revival-style hymn sing, and late-night Chantey Sings in the historic Griswold Inn. Main stage evening concerts are ticketed events.

The Festival started from the ground up last year after a 40-year run at Mystic Seaport. A mix of new administration and COVID-19 halted that beloved streak and the heartbroken die-hards were forced to reorganize.

Essex embraced the opportunity to



Enjoying chanteyns at the Annual CT Sea Music Festival.

host, with sea chanteyns ringing out every Monday night for the past 50 years at The Griswold Inn and provided the CT Sea Music Festival with its new home.

For More Information

Visit the Festival website at: <https://ctseamusicfest.org> or contact Deirdre Murtha at: contact@ctseamusicfest.org

or contact us at: 203-219-9155.

The CT Sea Music Festival is a project of the Maritime Music & Tradition Society Corp., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. It is sponsored by CT Humanities and receives support from the Paul Foundation and The Griswold Inn.



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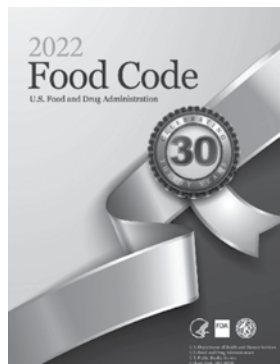



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Essex Health Department FDA Food Code Arrives in Connecticut

On February 17, 2023, Connecticut officially adopted the FDA Food Code into law.



The law requires ALL food establishments, temporary food establishments, and certified food inspectors in CT to comply with the most recent version of the FDA Food Code. This is a good thing for CT, as it provides the latest food safety guidance and best practices for new and emerging food preparation

techniques and food safety challenges. There is no “grandfathering” of former practices, and all food establishments SHALL comply with the most recent version of the FDA Food Code.

The adoption of the FDA Food Code results in a variety of changes for food establishment owners, operators, and their staff. The Food Code places a high priority on employee training and knowledge of the risk factors that contribute to foodborne illness. The Food Code addresses controls for risk factors and establishes public health interventions to protect consumer health.

All food service establishments are advised to become familiar with and comply with the FDA Food Code which is available online at: <https://www.fda.gov/food/fda-food-code/food-code-2022>. In March 2023, the Essex Health Department’s certified food inspector began inspecting establishments based on the requirements defined in the FDA Food Code.

The Essex Health Department will continue to work with food establishments and their staff as we all navigate this new process and collectively work to ensure the health and safety of the public while implementing the new requirements.

Essex Health Department



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is open Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays, 7 am to 3 pm

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LANDFILL/RECYCLING CENTER

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ZONING ENFORCEMENT		
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Richard Gallacher, David Martin, David Massey, Paul Mackenzie		

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Charles Burns		cburns@essexct.gov

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Yvonne Roziak, Assistant	x128	yroziak@essexct.gov

TOWN HALL OPERATIONS/ MAINTENANCE

Andrew Harrington	x136	aharrington@essexct.gov
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Essex Health Department

Who is Required to Comply with the FDA Food Code?

If your food establishment, business, organization, entity, or activity meets any of the following criteria, then, you SHALL comply with the FDA Food Code. All food establishments SHALL obtain an annual permit from the local health department. Operators of a temporary food establishment SHALL obtain a permit from the local health dept a minimum of 14 days prior to the temporary event. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Food establishment means an operation that:

- stores, prepares, packages, serves, vends FOOD directly to the CONSUMER, or otherwise provides FOOD for human consumption such as a restaurant; satellite or catered feeding location; catering operation if the operation provides FOOD directly to a CONSUMER or to a conveyance used to transport people; market; vending location; conveyance used to transport people; institution; or FOOD bank; and
- relinquishes possession of FOOD to a CONSUMER directly, or indirectly through a delivery service such as home delivery of grocery orders or restaurant takeout orders, or delivery service that is provided by common carriers.

Food establishment includes:

- An element of the operation such as a transportation vehicle or a central preparation facility that supplies a vending location or satellite feeding location unless the vending or feeding location is permitted by the REGULATORY AUTHORITY; and
- An operation that is conducted in a mobile, stationary, temporary, or permanent facility or location; where consumption is on or off the PREMISES; and regardless of whether there is a charge for the FOOD.

Temporary food establishment means a FOOD ESTABLISHMENT that operates for a period of no more than 14 consecutive days in conjunction with a single event or celebration.

The following businesses, organizations and entities

are not food establishments as defined by the FDA Food Code:

- (a) An establishment that offers only PREPACKAGED FOODS that are not TIME/ TEMPERATURE CONTROL FOR SAFETY FOODS (TTCSF)
- (b) A produce stand that only offers whole, uncut fresh fruits and vegetables
- (c) A FOOD PROCESSING PLANT; including those that are located on the PREMISES of a FOOD ESTABLISHMENT
- (d) A kitchen in a private home if only FOOD that is not TTCSF, is prepared for sale or service at a function such as a religious or charitable organization's bake sale and if the CONSUMER is informed by a clearly visible placard at the sales or service location that the FOOD is prepared in a kitchen that is not subject to regulation and inspection by the REGULATORY AUTHORITY
- (e) An area where FOOD that is prepared as specified in (d) above, is sold or offered for human consumption
- (f) A kitchen in a private home, such as a small family day-care provider; or a bed-and-breakfast operation that prepares and offers FOOD to guests if the home is owner occupied, the number of available guest bedrooms does not exceed 6, breakfast is the only

meal offered, the number of guests served does not exceed 18, and the CONSUMER is informed by statements contained in published advertisements, mailed brochures, and placards posted at the registration area that the FOOD is prepared in a kitchen that is not regulated and inspected by the REGULATORY AUTHORITY; or

- (g) A private home that receives catered or home-delivered FOOD

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*Remember: All items must be clean. Flatten or nest boxes when possible.
Plastic containers labeled #1 or #2.*

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Plastic Bags	Bulky Waste
Foods	

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Bernice & Janet Schaeffer	14 Essex Glen Drive, Unit 6
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William J. McCann
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Sam C. Lindberg
Elizabeth E. Kusche

January

Nancy Ott
Martha Freeman
Paul D. Clark
Robert A. Gleason
James P. McCauley

March

Robert A. Bartholomew
Katharina Youll

February

Brian F. Jobson

Respectfully submitted,
Yvonne Roziak
Assistant Town Clerk



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Hon. Jeannine Lewis,
Judge of the Saybrook
District Probate Court,
Photo courtesy of Laura
Matesky Photography

Probate Fees 101

The Probate Court becomes involved when a person dies in order to assist with transferring assets from the name of the deceased person to his or her heirs or beneficiaries under a Will.

In our court, which serves a population of approximately 62,000, we saw a rise in decedent's estate matters with the onset of the Covid pandemic, moving from 1,419 decedent's estates in 2019 to 1,523 in 2020 and eventually 2,371 in 2021.

There is much information and misinformation about what the cost is to invoke the assistance of the Probate Court in a decedent's estate matter. Calculating probate fees is very fact specific, but it is my hope that the guidelines below will assist court users in understanding how fees might be assessed for their own estates.

In a hypothetical scenario where the husband of a couple dies first, and the couple owns a house valued at \$500,000, a joint bank account valued at \$100,000, a jointly owned car valued at \$20,000, and the husband has a retirement account valued at \$350,000, all of which pass to his surviving spouse, the probate fee would be calculated as follows: half of the value of the jointly owned assets are attributed to the husband's estate, namely house, bank account and car, or $(\$250,000 + \$50,000 + \$10,000 = \$310,000)$. The retirement account is solely owned, so its entire value of \$350,000 is added to the \$310,000 in joint assets = \$660,000. Since all property passes to the surviving spouse, the \$660,000 in value of the husband's assets is reduced by half, and becomes \$330,000. Using the table on this page, the probate fee is then calculated as follows: $(\$330,000 - \$10,000) * 0.0035 = \$1,120.00 + \$150.00 = \$1,270.00$

FOR ANYONE DYING ON OR AFTER JULY 1, 2016, PROBATE FEES ARE ASSESSED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FOLLOWING TABLE:

Basis for Computation of Fees	Total Fee
0 to \$500	\$25
\$501 to \$1,000	\$50
\$1,000 to \$10,000	\$50, plus 1% of all in excess of \$1,000
\$10,000 to \$500,000	\$150, plus .35% of all in excess of \$10,000
\$500,000 to \$2,000,000	\$1,865, plus .25% of all in excess of \$500,000
\$2,000,000 to \$8,877,000	\$5,615, plus .5% of all in excess of \$2,000,000
\$8,877,000 and over	\$40,000

Any portion of the basis for fees that passes to the surviving spouse is reduced by fifty per cent.

Further information about fees associated with decedent's estates can be found in the Connecticut General Statutes, section 45a-107, and online at: www.ctprobate.gov/pages/probate-fees-and-expenses. The online calculator is useful, but calculating probate fees is most accurately done by a skilled probate clerk at your local court.

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Hazardous Waste Collections & Paper Shredding Events

Free household hazardous waste collections

for Essex residents will take place from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
on the following Saturdays:

April 22, 2023 - Clinton Public Works Garage,
117 Nod Rd., Clinton

May 6, 2023 - East Hampton Water Pollution
Control Authority, 20 Gildersleeve Dr., E. Hampton

June 17, 2023 - Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School,
49 Lyme St., Old Lyme

July 22, 2023 - Woodside Intermediate School,
30 Woodside Rd., Cromwell

August 19, 2023 - (old) HHW facility,
11 Dump Rd., Essex

September 16, 2023 - Middlesex Community College,
100 Training Hill Rd., Middletown

October 21, 2023 - Haddam Elementary School,
272 Saybrook Rd., Higganum

Free paper shredding events for Essex residents

will take place from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm on the
following Saturdays:

May 13, 2023 - East Hampton Water Pollution Control
Authority, 20 Gildersleeve Dr., E. Hampton

June 24, 2023 - Westbrook Town Hall,
866 Boston Post Rd., Westbrook

September 23, 2023 - Middlefield Community Center,
405 Main St., Middlefield

October 14, 2023 - Chester Town Hall,
203 Middlesex Ave., Chester

To learn details and acceptable ma-
terials please visit us at: www.rivercog.org/household-hazardous-waste
or find us on Facebook at:
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The size of a room dictates what is possible. Measuring properly and making a list of must-haves can help to start to understand a space and function. The design of a space and the construction have to go hand in hand. Even moving a light needs planning.

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ESSEX LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

*Your Community Center for Lifelong
Learning and Cultural Enrichment*

We have learned from pandemic isolating over the past three years that people want and need to gather. The Essex Library hosts multiple opportunities for community members to meet and pursue common interests.

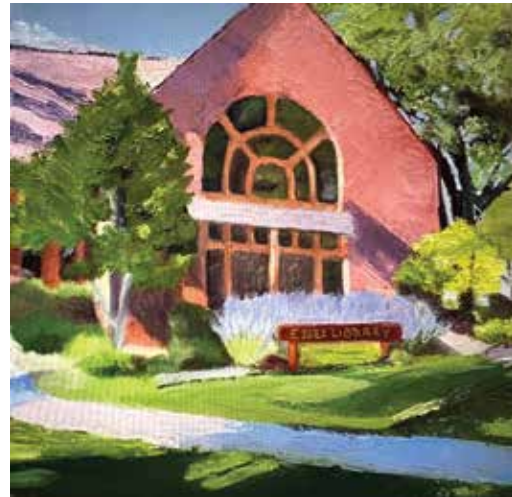
If you are handy with a needle and thread, yarn, or embroidery floss, stop in **Monday afternoons at 4:00 pm** to work on your latest project and meet fellow crafters.

Beginner/intermediate French speakers gather on **Tuesday afternoons at 4:00 pm** to polish their language skills through friendly conversation with other participants.

Facilitated by the Alzheimer's Association Connecticut Chapter, our Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group meets

once a month on the **second Tuesday at 5:00 pm** and provides an opportunity for caregivers to share experiences and gather information and resources about the challenges they face.

Share your enthusiasm for genealogy with our newest interest group for both beginners and long-time enthusiasts. Swap tips, stories, and resources on the **last Wednesday of every month at 11:00 am**.



Essex Library by Donna Richard.



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Readers are welcome to join one or all five book groups that meet throughout each month.

Visit the library's website to peruse the latest book selections in American history, classics, historical fiction, and general fiction and nonfiction.

There are plenty of opportunities for children to meet and pursue their interests through evidence-based programming that promotes early literacy, math, and social skills.

Tuesday mornings at 10:30 am, our youngest patrons ages 0-3 enjoy storytelling, dancing, and singing at Wiggle Worms, and pre-school children are welcome for a craft and story time at spring Into Stories on Friday mornings at 10:30 am.

Future scientists in kindergarten through sixth grade have fun with weekly STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, math) projects on Saturdays at 10:00 am.

Check the programming calendar online and the library's Instagram and Facebook feeds for other children's programming and forthcoming information about Miss Nicole's big plans for summer reading.

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*Source: William Pitt Sotheby's International Realty 2022 Awards Recognition, Essex Brokerage

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2nd Annual Cocktails with the Friends Returns in June



On Friday, June 9th, from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm, the Friends of the Essex Library will again host one of our community's favorite fundraisers – COCKTAILS WITH THE FRIENDS! The event will take place at a spectacular location in Essex, where cocktails and hors d'oeuvres will be served. With lovely gardens, great views and relaxing outdoor areas this location will not disappoint.

Carpooling is highly recommended so get a group together to have a fun evening out, get to know new people in the community and support the library at the same time. Please continue to support the Friends as all ticket sales are used to fund programs and

services that are outside the library's budget.

Visit our website for the ticket price. Tickets are per person (cash or check) and are on sale now through June 7th at the Library, 33 West Avenue. Individuals and couples are welcome.

BOOK SALE & DONATION NEWS

Thanks to all who attended our Spring Sale! Our upcoming monthly sales include History and Biography in April, Cooking, Gardening and DIY in May, Children and Young Adults in June, Self Help in July and Art and Coffee Table books in August.

There would be no sales without your generous donations. Please drop off your gently used books, puzzles, and games during library hours. Remember that donations need to be in good condition. Think resale! Visit www.youressexlibrary.org/friends/friends-book-sale/ for a detailed description of donation "pleases" and "no thank yous."



As always, thank you for supporting the library and remember to check the website at: www.youressexlibrary.org often to see what's new at the library and with the Friends!



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Tri-Town Cub Scouts Pack 13 Join Our Fun-Filled 2023!



Tri-Town Cub Scouts Pack 13 continues in 2023! Boys and girls in grades K-5 are encouraged to come join us for a fun-filled, outdoor-centered, character-building experience.

Last summer, a group of our older scouts attended resident camp for a week at the J.N. Webster Scout Reservation in Ashford, CT, where they completed several adventures and activities related to their rank advancement. Some of the activities included fire making, knot tying, learning to safely use folding knives, swimming, canoeing, kayaking, outdoor cooking, leatherworking, BB gun shooting, archery, group skits, and the ultimate campfire.

This winter, the scouts held their annual Pinewood Derby at Camp Hazen in Chester and attended the Maple Sugar Festival at the J.N. Webster Scout Reservation.



Above: Scouts watching the Pinewood Derby race in February 2023 at Camp Hazen.



Right: The Pinewood Derby track in all its splendor at Camp Hazen.

This spring, Pack 13 will hold hikes on the first Saturday of every month. There will also be special events such as the Covered Wagon Derby in April and the Fishing Derby in May!

If your family is interested in joining Pack 13, kindly reach out to us at: tritownpack13@gmail.com anytime for more information or to join our Pack.






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Essex Garden Club May Market

Jeopardy question... *"This is synonymous with Mother's Day and Spring"*
Answer... *"What is Essex Garden Club's May Market?"*



This year's May Market will be held on Saturday, May 13, in the Essex Town Park from 8:00 am – 1:00 pm rain or shine (as you can see, above, from last year's photograph!) Folks frequently begin lining up as early as 6:30 am (we even have some hardcore

fans who come down from Maine) so that they can be first in line to take their pick from the 2,000 members' plants which will be for sale. And no wonder ... members' plants have been dug from the gardens of Club members and their neighbors, so they are "proven winners" in our climate.

There will be 500 herbs plants for sale ... not just parsley, sage, rosemary, and thyme, but also basil, dill, lavender, chives, oregano, mint, and strawberries ... available as individual plants or planted in decorative containers ready for gift-giving. There will also be 400 tomato plants and an awesome selection of annuals (packs and hanging baskets) for sale. Everything you need to get a head start in your garden this year.

Because it's Mother's Day weekend, a bouquet of spring flowers from the Cut Flower booth or something handcrafted from Garden Gifts, such as a hypertufa container planted with succulents or one of the pressed flower items, would make a lovely present. And if the Mother in your life likes to cook, then head

continued on page 34

Essex - Community Listings

HOUSES OF WORSHIP

All Saints Episcopal Church..... (860) 767-1698
 First Baptist Church..... (860) 767-8623
 First Congregational Church (860) 767-8097
 St. Teresa of Calcutta Church..... (860) 767-1284
 St. John's Episcopal Church..... (860) 767-8095
 Trinity Lutheran Church (860) 767-0228

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Ancient Order of Weeders..... (860) 767-2700
 Democratic Town Committee..... (860) 767-1973
 Community Foundation of Middlesex County (860) 347-0025
 Tri-Town Cub Scout Pack 13.....(860)-558-2121
 tritownpack13@gmail
 Essex Board of Trade..... (860) 767-3904
 Essex Boy Scouts of America..... (860) 304-9027
 Essex Community Fund..... (860) 304-2751
 Essex Cub Scouts of America (860) 790-0681
 Essex Garden Club (973) 809-6832
 Essex Historical Society (860) 767-0681

Essex Lion's Club (860) 767-8072
 Essex Land Trust info@essexlandtrust.org
 Essex Little League..... www.essexlittleleague.org
 Essex Veterans Memorial Hall (860) 767-8892
 F.I.S.H. (860) 388-2693
 Ivoryton Company of Fifers & Drummers..... (860) 767-2237
 Ivoryton Village Alliance info@ivorytonalliance.org
 Lower Valley Visiting Nurses (860) 767-0186
 Republican Town Committee..... (860) 262-0226
 SCORE Mentors (860) 388-9508
 The Shoreline Soup Kitchens (860) 388-1988
 Tri-Town Youth Services Bureau..... (860) 526-3600
 9 Town Transit (860) 510-0429

SCHOOLS

Essex Elementary School..... (860) 767-8215
 John Winthrop Middle School..... (860) 526-9546
 Superintendent..... (860) 526-2417
 Valley Regional High School..... (860) 526-5328

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May Market... continued from page 32

over to pick up a bottle or two of the Club's legendary Garlic Salt. This has been sold out since last fall and a new supply will be available at May Market – but after that, it can only be bought at Gracie's Corner for as long as the supply lasts. This is a reminder to those of you who were disappointed when you tried to find our Garlic Salt for Christmas gifts last year.

If you're looking for variety, don't miss the popular jewelry tent which is expanding this year to include scarves, handbags, and belts; Treasures where you can find bargains galore; and the Boutique which will be offering some more up-market items to purchase.

And because the Garden Club is also an educational organization, don't forget to stop by the Conservation Tent to get information on how to identify invasive plants; suggestions for the best shrubs and plants for bees throughout the season; information on where to buy native plants, and more.

May Market is an all hands on deck fundraiser for the Essex Garden Club, and provides the funds that are used for scholarships (\$5,000 scholarships this year) and Town Beautification.

Conservation Commission Opportunities

The Essex Conservation Commission manages three preserves open to the public during daylight hours. Whether you want to hike a variety of terrains, explore different forests and waterways, bird watch or walk your dog, these activities are available all four seasons at Bushy Hill Preserve in Ivoryton, or Canfield Meadow Woods and Viney Hill Brook Preserves in Essex.

Our commission is actively seeking additional members to help us manage these preserves. We meet the second Thursday of each month at Essex Town Hall to discuss issues relating to grounds and landscaping within the preserves as well as to the administration of subcontractors hired to help keep the preserves safe and enjoyable.

Commissioners meet, periodically, at one of the preserves, walk the trails, complete light pruning and make structural repairs as needed. Field meetings are usually an hour or so in length and are usually conducted in the warmer months.

Contact Maria Lucarelli in the Selectmen's Office at: 860-767-4340 x112 or email: mlucarelli@essexct.gov, for more information on the Essex Conservation Commission vacancies and the Town's simple application process.



J. O'Brien at Bushy Hill Bridge to begin repairs.
 Photo by R. Helmecki.

Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission Permits? We Don't Need No Stinkin' Permits!

Well, if you're old enough to remember that edgy movie, "Blazing Saddles," the line was actually "Badges" not "Permits!" That noted, it's understood that there may be questions as to why the Town requires permits for working in and around wetlands and watercourses (streams and ponds.) In prior articles, we touched on the value of these resources – helping to absorb run-off nutrients and control pollution, providing an environment for wildlife, reducing flood risks, and providing recreational opportunities (think fishing, hiking, birdwatching, etc.).

SO, WHAT'S INVOLVED IN A PERMIT?

The process starts with assessing your property for presence of regulated areas. Streams and ponds are clearly recognized. Marshes, bogs, intermittent streams, and even forested wet areas are also designated, through soil testing. The Town's GIS map (found on the home page of www.essexct.gov) shows many of those areas. Others may require soil testing and flagging by a Soil Scientist. The Town's Land Use Office can assist you in identifying regulated areas. The State of CT delegates management of these areas + the "upland review area", 100 feet out from wetlands in Essex. The Town's Land Use Office Staff and the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission (IWWC) administers those regulations on behalf of the State.

If you're planning activities in wetlands or surrounding area, then an application must be submitted to the Land Use Office. The office staff will help you understand the application. Know that you may need to hire a Soil Scientist, depending on the state of wetlands mapping on your property and the disruption you plan.

Once the application is complete and fee paid (part of which is designated to the State), the application is officially received by the Town and IWWC at a meeting of the Commission. The IWWC will then schedule an approval review or a public hearing/review at the next monthly meeting. In the interim, it is common for the IWWC and Land Use staff to seek accommodations for protection of wetlands, during and after construction, for the applicant to incorporate into their plan. The IWWC's mission is to protect the resources, and that's what the permit process is really about... not red tape nor collecting fees but giving the Town an opportunity to work with property owners. Very few applications are turned down, and most do receive guidance on property protection as part of the process.

Don't hesitate to reach out to the Town Land Use Office at: 860-767-4340 ext 115 or email Carey Duques at: cduques@essexct.gov. The staff and the IWWC are here to assist you, while protecting our Town's and State's valuable resources.



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Sustainable Essex

RECENT HAPPENINGS!

On March 11, the community took advantage of our Repair Café at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Centerbrook. Lamps, a weed whacker, a steamer, clothing, knives, scissors, and many other items went home in working condition thanks to our talented team of volunteers. We'll be doing this periodically, so save those non-working items for the next go around.



Volunteers, Larry Heebner and Ben Kaufman, confer with community members at the March Repair Café.



Volunteers, Chauncey Smith and Gay Sherman, sharpen knives and repair jewelry at the Repair Café.

ON OUR MINDS...ENERGY CONSERVATION & ECONOMIC JUSTICE

We've applied for funding to promote the benefits of energy efficiency audits to underserved and income eligible groups. Eversource's Community Partnership Initiative is a program that seeks to partner with municipalities to increase participation in their Energize CT programs. If awarded funding, Sustainable Essex will be able to mount an education campaign to help people save on their energy bills and live with less of an impact on the environment.

NEW PROGRAM

Victory Gardens! Starting mid-May, bring excess food from your garden to a "To Be Determined" location where it will be collected by Sustainable Essex and brought to the Shoreline Soup Kitchens and Pantry in Westbrook. Check our website and social media for details as the date approaches.

SAVE THE (NEW) DATE!

Did you know that cigarette butts are a serious pollution problem? Cigarette butts are the most abundant form of plastic waste in the world and contain the toxins arsenic and lead. When improperly disposed of on the street or out the car window they leach toxins into our natural systems, presenting a threat to us and our environment. Help rid Essex of cigarette butts and litter of all sorts at our Earth Day Cleanup Event on May 6. Meet us at the commuter lot on the corner of West Ave and Route 154 by the Fire Department to get a bag and assignment. Bring your own gloves! After, we will meet back at Surfridge Brewing Co. for drinks and discussion about what else Essex is doing for the Earth this year.

Please follow us on Facebook and visit us at: www.sustainableessex.com.



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– Joan & Arthur

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The “Forgotten Battle of the War of 1812”

The Battle of Essex is known as the “Forgotten Battle of the War of 1812.”

DON'T TELL THAT TO THE SAILING MASTERS OF 1812! WE AND THE TOWN OF ESSEX WILL NEVER FORGET!

Our annual “Burning of the Ships Commemoration” held in the spring recalls when the British slipped up the Connecticut River on a cold, dark April night and torched 27 ships, as well as destroying the cordage and shipwright house, sail lofts and other structures that were an essential part of the ship-building trade. The British even took the Town’s supply of rum.



Sailing Masters in Burning of the Ships Commemoration Parade

This year the Sailing Masters are proudly taking to the streets of Essex on May 13th to once again honor those who bore the brunt of the British fury during the war. The ships of Essex were privateer ships built specifically to harass the British and evade their blockade during the War of 1812. This made the British just a wee bit indignant toward those ‘American Upstarts,’ resulting in the “Raid on Essex,” the largest naval loss our young country suffered until Pearl Harbor in December, 1941.

There are those who sometimes refer to this Commemoration as “Loser’s Day.” Let’s be fair. War was a muddled business on both sides - with hindsight being 20 / 20. It took the British almost two years of chasing our ships around a rather large ocean before finally figuring out that it might be easier to destroy enemy ships while they are anchored in a harbor, or while being built. We on the other hand may have had better luck fending off the assault if we actually had soldiers in our fort at the mouth of the Connecticut River. Empty forts with no soldiers inside to fire upon the enemy almost never repel attackers. Ask anyone who owns a fort.

While admittedly, it may not have been our finest hour, I would challenge those who have never stared down the musket barrels, swivel guns, and carronades (and feel free to toss in a few sharp cutlasses) of 136 British Sailors and Marines: “What would you

expect the townspeople to do?” Not even our most ardent patriots ever declared: “Give me rum or give me death!” And, though it was a disastrous blow to the town, the resolute inhabitants of Essex responded with the defiant attitude: “Don’t get mad. Get even.” And they quickly began building ships again.

This year’s Burning of the Ships Commemoration will present a gathering of lively and colorful Fife & Drum Corps, with their flags flying proudly, and wearing the uniforms and dress of various eras in our history - led by the Sailing Masters in their distinctive USS Constitution War of 1812 Naval Uniforms. As a special treat, the U.S. Navy Silver Dolphins Rifle Drill team from the submarine base in New London will march with us and perform precision rifle drill routines.

The parade steps off on May 13th at 2:00 pm from the Town Hall and marches down Main Street to the trill of the fifes and the beat of the drums to the flagpole at the foot of Main Street. The presentation will begin in front of the Connecticut River Museum with a brief ceremony memorializing the raid on Essex. Each of the Corps will then take a turn treating the audience to a tune from our nation’s past. Don’t miss this piece of living history from an age gone by - for fans of fife & drum music and history buffs alike.



Sailing Masters of 1812 at Essex Burning of the Ships Commemoration.

Many thanks to the Town of Essex and The Connecticut River Museum! We could not do this without you!

For more information, the Sailing Masters of 1812 can be contacted through our Facebook Page or at info@sailingmasters.org. If you love history, music, and big hats, the Sailing Masters invite you to “Come Aboard!” No previous musical experience required. You can choose from fife, snare drum, bass drum, and color guard (carry a flag). For more information, please call Vicki at 860-212-1606 or email captainvicki1812@gmail.com.

Emergency Management

Prepare for Power Outages this Spring

Eversource - Electricity Transmission & Distribution Company

Electricity to your property comes from Eversource not the Town of Essex. If you lose power, report the outage directly to Eversource - even if you think a neighbor already reported it. Eversource will calculate how many customers are without power in an area, assign a priority level and repair crew, and will provide customers with an estimated time for restoration.

Broken Pole / Downed Power Line

The Town of Essex cannot repair a broken pole or reconnect a downed power line - only Eversource crews can perform this work. Town crews will only clear branches and debris from roadways if there are no wires or other safety hazards. Eversource crews must first verify downed wires are de-energized before the Town crew can work safely and clear roads. This takes time. Always be situationally aware of the dangers associated with downed wires and be prepared for prolonged outages. Know alternate routes to and from your home.

Report all power outages directly to Eversource

1. <https://www.eversource.com/cg/customer/reportoutage>
2. Call 1-800-286-2000
3. Download the mobile app from Google Play or App Store
4. Sign up to receive outage alerts via text, email, phone. <https://www.eversource.com/security/account/login?ReturnUrl=/cg/customer/alerts>

Safety is your responsibility

1. Stay far away from fallen tree limbs and electrical wires; assume all downed wires are "live."
2. NEVER drive over fallen wires or around a barricade and NEVER move or relocate a barricade. Barricades are intentionally placed for your protection and signify danger ahead. Use an alternate route to get to your destination
3. Operate power generators outside of the home and adhere to all safety procedures
4. Refer to: www.Eversource.com for Storm Preparedness and Restoration Processes.

Stay safe,
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Emergency
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Director



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Each day, students will work through a semi-guided process using mindfulness techniques to support the creative process as a form of exploratory self-expression using various experimental art mediums. Our environment is inclusive and non-judgemental, so being an "artist" is not required! Everything students do at this camp, can be practiced at home once each series has been completed.

This is an incredible opportunity for empowering students to look reflectively at emotions and symbolically addressing them through the creative art process.

Grades 6 through 8

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Session 1: 6/26-6/30 10:00 am to 12:30 pm

Session 2: 7/31-8/4 10:00 am to 12:30 pm

For questions please contact: Faith Sprigg at: faith@ttsyb.org. Please scan the QR code below or visit our website to register!



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Girls Empowerment Summer Camp

SUMMER CAMP SERIES!

Girls Empowerment Group is a structured pro-social opportunity for girls in Deep River, Chester, and Essex to share their experiences in a safe environment.

Each day of camp will present a new theme for open and honest discussions, accompanied by a creative activity for self-expression. We end with a walking trip for boba at The Spot!

This program is for girls going into 7th and 8th grades as an opportunity to connect with peers prior to the start of the school year

Dates: Monday 7/31- Friday 8/4

Time: 10:00 am - 12:30pm

Location: 56 High Sreet, Deep River, CT 06417

To register please scan the QR code or visit us at: www.tritownys.org.



Happy Spring!

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Learning about Connecticut Wildlife & the Environment

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) website has a wealth of information about Connecticut wildlife and the environment. Most information is freely accessible, can be subscribed to, or purchased from its store. The following link takes you to its list of publications: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/SearchResults?SearchKeyword=&publications>.

Following are three publications which provide useful, timely and educational content.

Sound Outlook is an electronic newsletter published three times each year by the DEEP Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse. It addresses the water quality, coastal resources, and coastal uses of Long Island Sound. To sign up for Sound Outlook newsletters, go to: <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Coastal-Resources/Sound-Out/Sound-Outlook>


Wildlife Highlights is a free electronic newsletter for anyone interested in Connecticut's wildlife and the outdoors! Content typically

includes such items as wildlife and habitat projects underway in Connecticut; latest hunting information, regulation and season updates, and hunter education opportunities; natural history about Connecticut's wildlife species and wildlife viewing tips; what to do about nuisance or distressed wildlife; special events and activities; Citizen Scientist opportunities, and much more!

Connecticut Wildlife Magazine is the official bimonthly publication of the DEEP Bureau of Natural Resources. It includes articles written by DEEP biologists who are responsible for the management of Connecticut's wildlife, fisheries, and forest resources. The magazine is your best source for fishing, hunting, wildlife, and conservation information in the state. Every issue includes wildlife photography, in-depth features, hunting and fishing season information, and natural history articles - plus no advertising. It is published six times a year and is available by subscription. You'll find each issue packed with information about natural resource-related issues in Connecticut. *-Jim Denham*

Beach Association's Guide Provides Information on a Wide Range of Coastal Topics

The Land and Water Resources Division (LWRD) has developed another valuable resource, the [Connecticut Beach Association's Guide to Coastal Activities and Permitting](#), to help protect coastal resources and avoid potential violations of the DEEP's coastal regulatory programs.



Similar to the [Coastal Property Owner's Guide](#), the goal of this guide is to educate members of beach associations about the federal, state, and local permits that may be required before they undertake certain activities on their property. The information contained in the guide regarding common activities such as beach raking and storm response will hopefully protect against future enforcement actions and will protect coastal resources from adverse impacts associated with unauthorized activities, such as fill in tidal wetlands or coastal waters.

Although the guide was developed with beach associations in mind, we strongly encourage Sound Outlook readers to view the guide, which also provides general information on interesting topics such as protecting dunes, nesting shorebirds, and horseshoe crabs. When we know better, we can do better.



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